

-- Introduction --
ACEAS Molecules in Models

Nathan Schumaker

Background

- Primarily working in landscape ecology and conservation biology.
- Focus has been on tool development – spatially explicit and individual based models.
- Current areas of interest include PVA, landscape genetics, disease dynamics, connectivity and source-sink dynamics, stressor interactions...

Model Development and/or Viability Analyses

- Northern spotted owl (including barred owl)
- Desert tortoise
- Ord's Kangaroo rat
- Kit fox (focus on stressor interactions / pesticides)
- Pileated woodpecker
- Black-capped vireo (including cowbirds)
- Sage grouse
- Wolves, Fisher, Marten, and other carnivore species
- Mountain yellow-legged frog (including chytrid fungus)
- Tule Elk (focus on reintroduction experiments)
- And more...

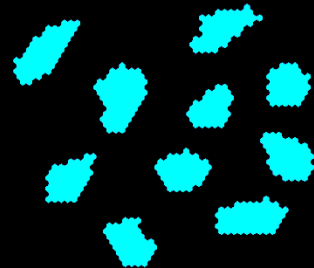
Some Current Activities

- Spotted owl recovery planning
- ESA symposium
- SERDP source-sink connectivity project
- Lacy / Akçakaya NSF project
- Cytrid research
- Pesticide impacts on population viability
- Spread of zoonotic diseases

PVA and Landscape Genetics

My modeling platform makes it possible to:

- Include more realism (landscape structure, life histories, disturbance regimes, etc.) than you'd find in other models.
- Evaluate the impacts of multiple interacting stressors including land management, climate change, invasions, disease spread, etc.
- Provide mechanistic and ecologically relevant ways to incorporate resistance and connectivity into landscape genetics models.
- Account for the richness of landscape structure and individual interactions (contrast with graph theoretic models).
- Develop complex feedback mechanisms using multiple adaptive loci in conjunction with other life history traits (e.g. link exposure to mutation rates, stress and genetic fitness to competitive ability...)



Two Genotypes

